



Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To: All Regional Engineers
From: Maureen M. Addis *Maureen M. Addis*
Subject: Special Provision for Portable Changeable Message Signs
Date: July 22, 2016

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Safety Programs and Engineering to reduce the minimum height of a portable changeable message sign (PCMS) in rural areas which is consistent with the MUTCD. This change may help mitigate potential damage to PCMS and the potential for PCMS to become misaligned during windy conditions.

This special provision should be inserted into contracts utilizing portable changeable message signs. Note: Highway Standard 701400 requires one.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the November 4, 2016 and subsequent lettings. The Project Development and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

This special provision will be available on the transfer directory July 22, 2016.

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PORTABLE CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGNS (BDE)

Effective: November 1, 2016

Revise this second sentence of the first paragraph of Article 1106.02(i) of the Standard Specifications to read:

“The message panel shall be a minimum of 7 ft (2.1 m) above the edge of pavement in urban areas and a minimum of 5 ft (1.5 m) above the edge of pavement in rural areas, present a level appearance, and be capable of displaying up to eight characters in each of three lines at a time.”

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